

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
VICTORIA DIVISION**

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| In re: |) | Case No. 22- <u>60043</u> |
| FREE SPEECH SYSTEMS, LLC, |) | Chapter 11 (Subchapter V) |
| Debtor. |) | |

**INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING DEBTOR’S USE OF CASH COLLATERAL AND
PROVIDING PARTIAL ADEQUATE PROTECTION**

On July 29, 2022, the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the “Debtor” or “FSS”) in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the “Case”), filed its *Emergency Motion for an Interim and Final Order (I) Authorizing the Use of Cash Collateral Pursuant to sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(b) and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to the Pre-Petition Secured Lender* (the “Motion”). In the Motion, the Debtor requested, *inter alia*, entry of this interim order (this “Order”) pursuant to Sections 105, 361, and 363 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101, et seq. (the “Bankruptcy Code”), and in accordance with Rules 2002, 4001, and 9014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”), authorizing the Debtor’s use of Cash Collateral (as hereinafter defined), as set forth herein. The Court, having considered the Motion, and having held an interim hearing on the Motion on August __, 2022 (the “Interim Hearing”), and having considered the evidence presented or proffered and the statements and representations of the parties on the record at the Interim Hearing; and all objections, if any, to the entry of this Interim Order having been resolved or overruled; and after due deliberation and consideration and sufficient cause appearing therefor;

1. The Chapter 11 Case. On July 29, 2022 (the “Petition Date”) the Debtor commenced the above captioned case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11

of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas (this "Court").

2. Debtor-in-Possession. The Debtor continues to operate its business and manage its property as debtor-in-possession pursuant to Section 1182(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. To date, no trustee or examiner has been appointed in this Case. This Interim Order shall constitute findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7052.

3. Jurisdiction and Venue. This Court has jurisdiction over the Case, the Motion and the parties and property affected hereby pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b) and 1334. Consideration of the Motion is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue of the Case and the Motion in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S. §§ 1408 and 1409. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are sections 105, 361, and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 4001, and the Local Rules of this Court (the "Local Rules").

4. Committee Formation. To date, no official committee (a "Committee") of unsecured creditors, equity interest holders, or other parties in interest has been appointed in the Case.

5. Notice. On July 29, 2022, the Debtor served copies of the Motion and notice of the Interim Hearing to all creditors and parties in interest entitled to such notice in compliance with Bankruptcy Rules 2002, 4001, 9014, and the Local Rules, including: (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for this District, (ii) those creditors holding the twenty (20) largest unsecured claims against the Debtor's estate, (iii) PQPR Holdings Limited, LLC Trust ("PQPR"), and (vi) any other secured parties of record. Under the circumstances, such notice of the Interim Hearing and the emergency relief requested in the Motion is due, proper, and sufficient notice and complies with Bankruptcy Rule

4001 and the Local Rules, and no other or further notice of the Interim Hearing or the relief granted in this Interim Order is necessary or required.

6. Immediate Need for Use of Cash Collateral. The Debtor asserts that an immediate and critical need exists for the Debtor to use Cash Collateral in order to continue the operation of its business. Without such use of Cash Collateral, the Debtor asserts that it will not be able to pay post-petition direct operating expenses and obtain goods and services needed to carry on its business in a manner that will avoid irreparable harm to the Debtor's estate. The Debtor further asserts that its ability to use Cash Collateral is necessary to preserve and maintain the going concern value of the Debtor's estate.

7. Conditional Consent to Use of Cash Collateral. The Debtor seeks authorization to use Cash Collateral to pay the Debtor's ordinary and necessary operating expenses set forth in the budget attached to the Motion as Exhibit A (the "Budget") for the period (the "Interim Period") from the Petition Date through and including August 15, 2022 (the "Termination Date").

8. Good Cause/Fair and Reasonable Terms. Good cause has been shown for the entry of this Order. Among other things, entry of this Order will minimize disruption of the business and operations of the Debtor and permit the Debtor to maintain the going concern value of its business. The use of Cash Collateral authorized hereunder is necessary, essential, and appropriate and is in the best interest of, and will benefit, the Debtor, its creditors, and the Debtor's bankruptcy estate as it will, among other things, provide the Debtor with the necessary liquidity to (i) avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtor and its bankruptcy estate; and (ii) preserve and maximize the value of the Debtor's business and assets. The terms and conditions of the use of Cash Collateral and the

security interests, liens, rights, and priorities granted to the lenders hereunder are fair and appropriate under the circumstances.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

1. Motion Granted. The Motion is hereby granted on an interim basis as set forth herein. Any objections to the entry of this Order that have not been previously resolved or withdrawn are hereby overruled on their merits.

2. Interim Order. This Order shall be considered an interim cash collateral order and shall be binding upon all parties and upon all subsequently appointed court officers, including any trustee appointed in the Case under Chapter 7 or Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

3. DIP Account. The Debtor shall maintain debtor in possession (“DIP”) accounts at Axos Bank which accounts shall contain all operating revenues and any other source of cash constituting Cash Collateral, which is (or has been) generated by and is attributable to the Debtor’s business (the “DIP Account”). All cash generated by the Debtor or from the Debtor’s business or assets, including any cash held in any of the Debtor’s pre-petition bank accounts, shall be immediately transferred by the Debtor to the DIP Account. The Debtor shall be prohibited from withdrawing or using funds from the DIP Account except as provided for in the Budget, this Order, or pursuant to further order of the Court.

4. Terms of Cash Collateral Use. The Debtor is hereby authorized to use Cash Collateral to pay the items set forth in the Budget, and up to the respective aggregate amount of disbursements set forth in the Budget for any week during the Interim Period, subject to the Permitted Variance (as hereinafter defined). The Permitted Variance shall be defined as 10% per line item and 20% of the

overall Budget. The Debtor shall not use, sell, or expend, directly or indirectly, the Cash Collateral except pursuant to the Budget and upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Order.

5. No Payments to Insiders. Other than as provided for in the Budget, the Debtor shall not make any payment to or for the benefit of any insider of the Debtor, as that term is defined in section 101(31) of the Bankruptcy Code.

6. Further Authorization. The Debtor is hereby authorized to enter into all agreements pursuant to the terms of this Order necessary to allow the Debtor to use Cash Collateral subject to the terms of this Order in the amounts and for the expenses set forth on the Budget. The Debtor is authorized to collect and receive all accounts receivable and other operating revenues and immediately deposit same in the DIP Account.

7. Taxes. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to grant PQPR (the “Pre-Petition Lender”) liens which are senior to pre- and post-petition statutory ad valorem real property tax liens. The Debtor shall remain current in all post-petition tax payments and reporting obligations, including, but not limited to, all ad valorem real property taxes and federal trust fund taxes.

8. Adequate Protection – Replacement Liens. As adequate protection for any diminution in value of each of the Pre-Petition Lender’s interest in the Debtor’s collateral, if any, including Cash Collateral, resulting from the imposition of the automatic stay with respect to the Collateral and/or the Debtor’s use, sale or lease of the Collateral during the Case (the “Diminution in Value”), the Pre-Petition Lender is hereby granted, effective as of the Petition Date, valid, binding, enforceable, and automatically perfected liens (the “Replacement Liens”) in all currently owned or hereafter acquired property and assets of the Debtor, of any kind or nature, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, wherever located, now owned or hereafter acquired or arising (excluding

avoidance or other causes of action arising under chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code), and all proceeds and products of the foregoing (collectively, the “Adequate Protection Collateral”). The Replacement Liens granted pursuant to this Order shall have the same priority as each of the Pre-Petition Lender’s properly perfected unavoidable pre-petition liens but shall be subject to the Carve Out.

9. Adequate Protection – Priority Administrative Claim. As additional partial adequate protection for the Debtor’s use of Cash Collateral, to the extent of any Diminution in Value and a failure of the other adequate protection provided by this Order the pre-petition lenders shall have an allowed priority administrative expense claim in this Case and any successor case as provided in and to the fullest extent allowed by Sections 503(b) and 507(b) of the Bankruptcy Code and otherwise (the “Adequate Protection Priority Claim”).

10. Carve Out. The Replacement Liens and Adequate Protection Priority Claim granted herein shall be subject to (a) unpaid fees payable to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court or the United States Trustee; (b) subject to the Budget, court-approved administrative expense claims of estate professionals, employed pursuant to order of this Court (collectively, “Estate Professionals”), for incurred but unpaid fees, expenses and other costs (all such carve-out amounts referenced above, collectively, the “Carve Out”).

11. Subsequent Modification of Order. If any or all of the provisions of this Order are hereafter modified, vacated or stayed, such modification, vacation or stay shall not affect the validity of any obligation, indebtedness or liability incurred by the Debtor from the Petition Date through the effective date of such modification, vacation or stay, or the validity or enforceability of any security interest, lien or priority authorized or created by this Order.

12. Final Cash Collateral Hearing: A final hearing on the Motion shall be held before this Court on August ____ 2022, at __:__.m. Central time. Objections to the entry of a final order approving the Motion shall be filed and served on counsel for the Debtor and pre-petition lenders not later than 4:00 p.m. Central time on August ____ 2022.

Dated: August __, 2022

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE